

shenandoah national park visitors guide

Shenandoah National Park Visitors Guide: Your Ultimate Companion to Exploring Virginia's Natural Gem

shenandoah national park visitors guide is designed to help you make the most of your visit to one of Virginia's most breathtaking natural treasures. Nestled along the Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah National Park offers stunning vistas, diverse wildlife, and countless outdoor activities that attract nature lovers, hikers, photographers, and families from all over the country. Whether you're planning a day trip or an extended stay, this guide will provide you with everything you need to know—from the best trails and scenic drives to camping tips and seasonal highlights.

Getting to Know Shenandoah National Park

Shenandoah National Park stretches over 200,000 acres of protected forestland along the spine of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia. Its centerpiece is Skyline Drive, a 105-mile scenic road that offers panoramic views of the Shenandoah Valley and the Piedmont region. The park is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts, with more than 500 miles of hiking trails, including a portion of the famous Appalachian Trail.

Park Entrances and Access Points

There are four main entrances to Shenandoah National Park: Front Royal (North Entrance), Thornton Gap, Swift Run Gap, and Rockfish Gap (South Entrance). Each entrance offers unique access to different parts of the park, so choosing the right one depends on your itinerary.

- **Front Royal Entrance:** Best for quick access to the northern sections and Skyline Drive.
- **Thornton Gap Entrance:** Convenient for exploring the central areas, including Old Rag Mountain.
- **Swift Run Gap Entrance:** A quieter entrance, ideal for less crowded trails.
- **Rockfish Gap Entrance:** The southern gateway and closest to Charlottesville.

Knowing which entrance to use will save you time and help you plan your route efficiently.

Top Activities and Attractions for Visitors

Shenandoah National Park is packed with activities that cater to all interests, whether you're into hiking, wildlife watching, or simply soaking in nature's beauty.

Hiking Trails for All Levels

One of Shenandoah's biggest draws is its extensive trail network. From easy walks to challenging mountain climbs, there's a trail for every type of hiker.

- **Easy Trails:** The Limberlost Trail is a family-friendly loop with smooth terrain and educational signs about the local flora and fauna.
- **Moderate Trails:** Hawksbill Mountain Trail leads to the park's highest peak with rewarding views.
- **Strenuous Trails:** Old Rag Mountain is a favorite for experienced hikers seeking a challenging rock scramble and panoramic vistas.

Remember to bring plenty of water, wear sturdy footwear, and check trail conditions before heading out.

Scenic Drives and Overlooks

If hiking isn't your thing or you want to enjoy the park's beauty from the comfort of your car, Skyline Drive is a must-do. The road winds along the ridge with over 75 overlooks where you can stop and admire the landscape.

Some popular overlooks include:

- **Thornton Hollow Overlook:** Excellent for sunrise views.
- **Hazel Mountain Overlook:** Offers expansive views of the Shenandoah Valley.
- **Stony Man Overlook:** Near the Stony Man Trailhead, perfect for a quick scenic stop.

Driving Skyline Drive is especially magical during fall when the foliage bursts into vibrant reds, oranges, and yellows.

Wildlife Watching and Photography

Shenandoah is home to a variety of wildlife including white-tailed deer, black bears, wild turkeys, and countless bird species. Early morning and late evening are the best times for spotting animals. Don't forget your camera and binoculars!

Pro tip: Keep a safe distance from wildlife and never feed animals to protect both visitors and nature.

Planning Your Visit: When to Go and What to Bring

Timing your visit can greatly enhance your Shenandoah National Park experience.

Best Times to Visit

- **Spring:** Wildflowers bloom, and waterfalls are at their fullest. The weather is mild but can be rainy.
- **Summer:** Warm temperatures and longer days are perfect for hiking and camping. Expect larger crowds.
- **Fall:** This is peak season for leaf peepers. Vibrant autumn colors make for stunning photography opportunities.
- **Winter:** The park is quieter, and snow transforms the landscape into a winter wonderland. Some facilities may be closed.

Essential Gear and Tips

Packing the right gear ensures a safe and comfortable visit:

- Comfortable hiking boots or shoes
- Layers of clothing for changing weather
- Rain gear, especially in spring and summer
- Plenty of water and nutritious snacks
- A detailed map or GPS device (cell service can be spotty)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent
- A camera or smartphone for photos

Also, be aware that Shenandoah National Park charges an entrance fee, so have some cash or a credit card ready.

Camping and Lodging Options

For those wishing to immerse themselves fully in the park's natural beauty, Shenandoah offers a variety of overnight accommodations.

Campgrounds

The park has four main campgrounds: Big Meadows, Lewis Mountain, Loft Mountain, and Mathews Arm. Each offers different amenities, from tent sites to RV hookups.

- **Big Meadows:** The largest campground with easy access to hiking trails and a visitor center.
- **Lewis Mountain:** Smaller and more rustic, ideal for a quieter camping experience.
- **Loft Mountain:** Popular for its scenic views and proximity to hiking trails.
- **Mathews Arm:** Offers a more secluded setting with fewer crowds.

Reservations are recommended, especially during peak seasons.

Lodging Inside the Park

If camping isn't for you, the park's historic Skyland Resort and Big Meadows Lodge provide comfortable lodging with dining options. Staying inside the park means you can enjoy early morning wildlife sightings and evening stargazing without the commute.

Nearby Towns and Accommodations

Outside the park, charming towns like Front Royal, Luray, and Charlottesville offer cozy bed and breakfasts, hotels, and vacation rentals. These towns also provide additional dining and shopping options.

Visitor Centers and Educational Opportunities

Shenandoah National Park boasts several visitor centers where you can gather information, attend ranger-led programs, and learn about the park's natural and cultural history.

- **Harry F. Byrd Visitor Center (Rockfish Gap Entrance):** Features exhibits, a bookstore, and helpful staff.
- **Dickey Ridge Visitor Center (near Thornton Gap):** Offers trail information and ranger programs.
- **Big Meadows Visitor Center:** A great stop for maps, permits, and educational displays.

Ranger-led hikes, talks, and night sky programs are fantastic ways to deepen your appreciation for the park.

Conservation and Responsible Visiting

Shenandoah National Park is a protected ecosystem that relies on visitors to respect its rules and preserve its beauty. Practicing Leave No Trace principles—packing out all trash, staying on marked trails, and respecting wildlife—helps ensure the park remains pristine for future generations.

By following park regulations and being mindful of your impact, you contribute to the ongoing conservation efforts that keep Shenandoah National Park a natural sanctuary.

Visiting Shenandoah National Park is an opportunity to connect with nature and experience the tranquility of the Blue Ridge Mountains. With this Shenandoah National Park visitors guide in hand, you're ready to explore its majestic landscapes, vibrant wildlife, and rich history—creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the best time to visit Shenandoah National Park?

The best time to visit Shenandoah National Park is during the spring (April to June) and fall (September to November) when the weather is mild and the foliage is especially beautiful.

How do I get to Shenandoah National Park?

Shenandoah National Park is accessible via Skyline Drive, which runs 105 miles along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia. The park is about 75 miles from Washington, D.C., and 75 miles from Charlottesville, Virginia.

Are there entrance fees for Shenandoah National Park?

Yes, there is an entrance fee to access Skyline Drive and the park. As of 2024, the fee is \$30 per vehicle for a 7-day pass. Annual passes and America the Beautiful passes are also accepted.

What are the top hiking trails in Shenandoah National Park?

Popular hiking trails include Old Rag Mountain, Dark Hollow Falls, Hawksbill Mountain, and Stony Man Trail. These trails offer scenic views, waterfalls, and opportunities to see wildlife.

Can I camp inside Shenandoah National Park?

Yes, Shenandoah National Park has several campgrounds including Big Meadows, Loft Mountain, and Lewis Mountain. Backcountry camping is also permitted with a free permit, but you must follow park

regulations.

Is Shenandoah National Park pet-friendly?

Pets are allowed in Shenandoah National Park but must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet at all times. Pets are allowed on most trails but are prohibited in backcountry areas and some designated trails.

What wildlife might I see in Shenandoah National Park?

Visitors might see white-tailed deer, black bears, wild turkeys, various bird species, and other wildlife. It's important to keep a safe distance and not feed the animals.

Are there ranger-led programs or tours available?

Yes, the park offers ranger-led programs such as guided hikes, campfire talks, and educational programs during the peak visitor seasons. Check the park's official website or visitor center for schedules.

What facilities are available at Shenandoah National Park?

Facilities include visitor centers, picnic areas, restrooms, campgrounds, and lodges like Skyland and Big Meadows Lodge. There are also gift shops and dining options at some locations.

How can I stay safe while visiting Shenandoah National Park?

To stay safe, follow trail markers, bring plenty of water, wear appropriate footwear, check weather conditions, keep a safe distance from wildlife, and carry a map or GPS device. Cell service may be limited in some areas.

Additional Resources

Shenandoah National Park Visitors Guide: Navigating Virginia's Scenic Wilderness

shenandoah national park visitors guide serves as an essential resource for travelers seeking to explore one of the United States' most treasured natural landscapes. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, Shenandoah National Park offers an extensive network of hiking trails, stunning vistas, diverse wildlife, and a tranquil escape from urban life. This guide aims to provide a professional, in-depth overview of what visitors can expect, how to plan their visit, and practical advice to optimize their experience in the park.

Understanding Shenandoah National Park

Shenandoah National Park spans over 200,000 acres along the spine of the Blue Ridge Mountains, featuring more than 500 miles of hiking trails—including a portion of the famed Appalachian Trail. The park's topography ranges from lush forested valleys to rugged peaks, with Skyline Drive serving as the iconic 105-mile scenic byway that offers breathtaking views and access to many trailheads.

Visitors to Shenandoah National Park often seek a blend of outdoor adventure and serenity. The park's proximity to Washington, D.C., and Richmond makes it a popular destination for day trips and weekend getaways, but its vastness and range of activities cater equally to seasoned backpackers and casual sightseers.

Visitor Statistics and Peak Seasons

According to the National Park Service, Shenandoah attracts approximately 1.4 million visitors annually. Peak visitation occurs in the fall months, particularly October, when the foliage transforms into a vibrant tapestry of reds, oranges, and yellows. Spring also draws crowds eager to witness blooming wildflowers and newborn wildlife.

Understanding the visitor flow is crucial for planning. Weekends during peak seasons can be crowded, especially along Skyline Drive and at popular trailheads like Old Rag Mountain and Dark Hollow Falls. For a quieter experience, midweek visits and early mornings are advisable.

Key Attractions and Activities

Shenandoah National Park is renowned for its diverse recreational opportunities, appealing to a broad spectrum of outdoor enthusiasts.

Hiking and Trails

The park's extensive trail system is its primary draw. From easy strolls to challenging backcountry hikes, there is something for every skill level.

- **Old Rag Mountain:** Often cited as the park's most strenuous and rewarding hike, this 9-mile loop includes rock scrambles and panoramic summit views.
- **Dark Hollow Falls:** A moderate 1.4-mile hike leading to a picturesque 70-foot waterfall, suitable for families.
- **Appalachian Trail:** Shenandoah encompasses 101 miles of this iconic trail, making it a key section for

thru-hikers and day hikers alike.

Scenic Drives and Overlooks

Skyline Drive is the heart of Shenandoah's visitor infrastructure. The drive features over 75 overlooks offering vistas of the Shenandoah Valley and Piedmont region.

- The drive's speed limit is intentionally low (35 mph) to preserve safety and encourage sightseeing.
- Numerous pull-offs and picnic areas make it easy to stop and enjoy the landscape.
- It is important to note that Skyline Drive is closed in winter due to snow and ice, typically from December through March depending on conditions.

Wildlife Viewing

Shenandoah is home to a variety of wildlife including white-tailed deer, black bears, wild turkeys, and over 190 species of birds. Early morning and dusk are prime times for wildlife observation.

Visitors should maintain a safe distance, particularly with bears, and adhere to park guidelines to avoid disturbing animals or altering their natural behaviors.

Visitor Facilities and Services

Shenandoah National Park offers a range of visitor services designed to enhance the experience without detracting from the natural environment.

Visitor Centers

The park operates three main visitor centers: Dickey Ridge, Byrd Visitor Center, and Loft Mountain. Each provides maps, exhibits, ranger-led programs, and information on current conditions.

- Byrd Visitor Center is located near the main entrance and is the largest facility.
- Facilities typically operate seasonally; it is advisable to check hours before visiting.

Camping Options

Camping in Shenandoah ranges from developed campgrounds to backcountry permits.

- **Frontcountry Campgrounds:** There are four campgrounds with amenities such as restrooms, fire rings, and picnic tables. Reservations are recommended during peak seasons.
- **Backcountry Camping:** Permits are required for backcountry camping, which allows visitors to experience solitude deep in the park's wilderness. Strict Leave No Trace principles apply.

Lodging and Dining

Shenandoah National Park has limited lodging options, including the historic Skyland Resort and Big Meadows Lodge, both located along Skyline Drive. These lodges provide rustic accommodations and dining services, though reservations are essential due to limited capacity.

Nearby towns such as Luray and Front Royal offer additional lodging and dining options for visitors seeking more variety.

Planning Your Visit: Practical Tips

A successful trip to Shenandoah National Park requires thoughtful preparation, especially given the park's size and varying terrain.

Entrance Fees and Passes

As of 2024, the park charges an entrance fee of \$30 per vehicle for a 7-day pass. Annual passes and the America the Beautiful National Parks Pass are accepted. Visitors entering on foot or by bicycle pay a reduced fee.

Weather Considerations

Weather in Shenandoah can be unpredictable. Summer months bring warm temperatures but also

afternoon thunderstorms. Fall and spring offer mild weather, but nights can be chilly. Winter visits require preparation for snow and ice, especially at higher elevations.

Safety and Regulations

Park officials emphasize safety protocols, including:

- Staying on marked trails to prevent erosion and protect fragile ecosystems.
- Properly storing food to avoid attracting wildlife, particularly bears.
- Being aware of cell phone limitations; some areas have no service.
- Checking for trail and road closures before arrival.

Accessibility

Shenandoah National Park has made efforts to accommodate visitors with disabilities. Several overlooks, visitor centers, and campgrounds feature accessible facilities. Some trails offer wheelchair-accessible segments, though many hiking paths remain challenging.

Comparative Insights: Shenandoah vs. Other National Parks

Shenandoah National Park is distinctive for its proximity to major metropolitan areas and its emphasis on scenic driving and day hiking. Unlike larger parks such as Yellowstone or Yosemite, Shenandoah's experience is often more intimate and less focused on extreme wilderness adventures.

- Pros: Easily accessible, rich in biodiversity, and offers a manageable scale for short visits.
- Cons: Limited backcountry facilities compared to larger parks and can be crowded during peak seasons.

Visitors seeking a balance between natural beauty and convenience often find Shenandoah an ideal destination.

For those eager to explore a quintessential Appalachian landscape with deep historical roots and diverse outdoor opportunities, the Shenandoah National Park visitors guide provides a comprehensive framework to make the most of their journey. Whether hiking along rugged ridges, driving through colorful forests, or simply soaking in the tranquil mountain vistas, Shenandoah remains a captivating chapter in America's national park story.

Shenandoah National Park Visitors Guide

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Nature Guide to Shenandoah National Park Ann Simpson, Rob Simpson, 2023-06 Revised edition of: Falcon pocket guide: nature guide to Shenandoah National Park / Ann and Rob Simpson. 2013.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Shenandoah National Park Pocket Guide Bert Gildart, Jane Gildart, 2008 Embracing the rolling hills, quiet hollows, meandering streams, and verdant forests of Northern Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah National Park offers its nearly two million annual visitors solace and adventure. This handy, portable guide points visitors to the park's many outdoor activities and details useful travel information for families and backcountry explorers alike. Including two PopOut maps and seven detailed maps of the park and its environs, including Skyline Drive and the Appalachian Trail, outdoor activities including hiking and camping, as well as seeing the sites from Skyline Drive, what's available outside the park, including places to stay and dine, activities just for families and additional resources to the area.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Guide To Waterfalls Of Shenandoah National Park Larry Brown, 2020-10-06 A reference to 36 waterfalls found along and off the trails within the 3 districts of Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. This guide provides 50+ full color photos plus hiking details for each waterfall. The starting points for all listed waterfalls are at trailheads located along the Skyline Drive, which makes it ideal for both new and infrequent park visitors to find these Shenandoah gems. The waterfalls referenced in this guide are listed in order of their location from north to south along the Skyline Drive, beginning in the North District at mile marker 0, continuing through the Central District, and ending in the South District at mile marker 105. The use of a handheld GPS device is highly recommended for any off-trail trekking to waterfalls included in this guide.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Fodor's Complete Guide to the National Parks of the USA Fodor's Travel Guides, 2025-07-29 Whether you want to hike through the jaw-dropping scenery of Acadia, see rare wildlife and natural wonders in Yellowstone, or go river-rafting in the Grand Canyon, the local Fodor's travel experts in all the National Parks are here to help! Fodor's Complete Guide to the National Parks of the USA is packed with maps, carefully curated recommendations, and everything else you need to simplify your trip-planning process and make the most of your time. This brand new title has been designed with an easy-to-read layout, fresh information, and beautiful color photos. Fodor's Complete Guide to the National Parks of the USA travel guide includes: AN ILLUSTRATED ULTIMATE EXPERIENCES GUIDE to the top things to see and do MULTIPLE ITINERARIES to effectively organize your days and maximize your time MORE THAN 65 DETAILED MAPS to help you navigate confidently COLOR PHOTOS throughout to spark your wanderlust! HONEST RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LOCALS on the best sights, trails, activities, and more PHOTO-FILLED "BEST OF" FEATURES on "Ultimate Experiences," "Wildlife in the Parks," "Best National Park Lodges," and more TRIP-PLANNING TOOLS AND PRACTICAL TIPS including when to go, getting around, beating the crowds, and saving time and money HISTORICAL AND ECOLOGICAL INSIGHTS providing rich context on the local wildlife, geology, park history, and more SPECIAL FEATURES on "The History of the National Parks," "Beyond the National Parks" and

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shenandoah national park visitors guide: *Explorer's Guide The Shenandoah Valley and Mountains of the Virginias* Jim Hargan, 2005-04-19 A lively, comprehensive guide to the southern Appalachians, from Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains to the Monongahela National Forest of West Virginia. With visitation levels that rival Orlando and New York City, the southern Appalachians draw a huge array of weekenders, adventurers, and long-term visitors. This book offers historical insight, outdoor adventure, and all the information most travelers need to plan and enjoy their journey. This guide also serves as an insider's handbook to the nine national parks, offering active travelers the best access points and trailheads for kayaking, biking, and hiking excursions. In addition, this comprehensive guide to the region includes opinionated listings of inns, B&Bs, hotels, and vacation cabins; hundreds of dining reviews, from barbecue to four-star cuisine; up-to-date maps; an alphabetical What's Where subject guide to aid in trip planning; and handy icons that point out family-friendly establishments, wheelchair access, places of special value, and lodgings that accept pets.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Fodor's The Complete Guide to the National Parks of the USA Fodor's Travel Guides, 2021-09-14 Whether you want to hike through the jaw-dropping scenery of Acadia, see rare wildlife and natural wonders in Yellowstone, or go river-rafting in the Grand Canyon, the local Fodor's travel experts in all the National Parks are here to help! Fodor's Complete Guide to the National Parks of the USA is packed with maps, carefully curated recommendations, and everything else you need to simplify your trip-planning process and make the most of your time. This brand new title has been designed with an easy-to-read layout, fresh information, and beautiful color photos. Fodor's Complete Guide to the National Parks of the

USA travel guide includes: AN ILLUSTRATED ULTIMATE EXPERIENCES GUIDE to the top things to see and do MULTIPLE ITINERARIES to effectively organize your days and maximize your time MORE THAN 70 DETAILED MAPS to help you navigate confidently COLOR PHOTOS throughout to spark your wanderlust! HONEST RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LOCALS on the best sights, restaurants, hotels, activities, and more PHOTO-FILLED "BEST OF" FEATURES on "Ultimate Experiences," "Best Campgrounds," "Best Lodges," and more TRIP-PLANNING TOOLS AND PRACTICAL TIPS including when to go, getting around, beating the crowds, and saving time and money HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL INSIGHTS providing rich context on the local people, art, architecture, geography and more SPECIAL FEATURES on "Exploring the Colorado River," "What to Watch and Read Before You Visit," and "Yellowstone's Geothermal Wonders" LOCAL WRITERS to help you find the under-the-radar gems UP-TO-DATE COVERAGE ON: Acadia National Park, Arches National Park, Badlands National Park, Big Bend National Park, Biscayne National Park, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Capitol Reef National Park, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Channel Islands National Park, Congaree National Park, Crater Lake National Park, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Death Valley National Park, Denali National Park, Dry Tortugas National Park, Everglades National Park, Gates of the Arctic & Kobuk Valley National Park, Gateway Arch National Park, Glacier Bay National Park, Glacier & Waterton Lakes National Parks, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Teton National Park, Great Basin National Park, Great Sand Dunes National Park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Haleakala National Park, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hot Springs National Park, Indiana Dunes National Park, Isle Royale National Park, Joshua Tree National Park, Katmai National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, Lake Clark National Park, Lassen Volcanic National Park, Mammoth Cave National Park, Mesa Verde National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, National Park of American Samoa, New River Gorge Park and Preserve, North Cascades National Park, Olympic National Park, Petrified Forest National Park, Pinnacles National Park, Redwood National and State Parks, Rocky Mountain National Park, Saguaro National Park, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Shenandoah National Parks, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Virgin Islands National Parks, Voyageurs National Parks, White Sands National Park, Wind Cave National Park, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, Yosemite National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Zion National Park Planning on spending more time in any of the states? Check out Fodor's Arizona and the Grand Canyon, Fodor's California, Fodor's Colorado, Fodor's Florida, Fodor's Essential Hawaii, Fodor's Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire, Fodor's U.S. & British Virgin Islands, Compass Yellowstone National Park, Compass Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks, and Fodor's InFocus Smoky Mountains. *Important note for digital editions: The digital edition of this guide does not contain all the images or text included in the physical edition. ABOUT FODOR'S AUTHORS: Each Fodor's Travel Guide is researched and written by local experts. Fodor's has been offering expert advice for all tastes and budgets for over 80 years. For more travel inspiration, you can sign up for our travel newsletter at fodors.com/newsletter/signup, or follow us @FodorsTravel on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We invite you to join our friendly community of travel experts at fodors.com/community to ask any other questions and share your experience with us!

shenandoah national park visitors guide: An Educational Guide to the National Park System Carol Smallwood, 1989 A guide to the unique resources available from 327 national park system facilities.

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shenandoah national park visitors guide: *The Complete Guide to America's National Parks* National Park Foundation, 1979

shenandoah national park visitors guide: *The complete guide to America's national parks : the official visitor's guide of the National Park Foundation ; comprehensive information on all 369 national park areas* Jane Bangley MacQueen, 1996

shenandoah national park visitors guide: *The Rough Guide to the USA: Travel Guide eBook*

Rough Guides, 2024-03-01 This USA guidebook is perfect for independent travellers planning a longer trip. It features all of the must-see sights and a wide range of off-the-beaten-track places. It also provides detailed practical information on preparing for a trip and what to do on the ground. And this USA travel guidebook is printed on paper from responsible sources, and verified to meet the FSC's strict environmental and social standards. This USA guidebook covers: New York City, The Mid-Atlantic, New England, The Great Lakes, The Capital Region, The South, Florida, Louisiana, Texas, The Great Plains, The Rockies, The Southwest, California, The Pacific Northwest, Alaska, Hawaii. Inside this USA travel book, you'll find: A wide range of sights - Rough Guides experts have hand-picked places for travellers with different needs and desires: off-the-beaten-track adventures, family activities or chilled-out breaks Itinerary examples - created for different time frames or types of trip Practical information - how to get to the USA, all about public transport, food and drink, shopping, travelling with children, sports and outdoor activities, tips for travellers with disabilities and more Author picks and things not to miss in the USA - Redwood National and State Parks; Glacier National Park; Sweet Auburn, Atlanta; The National Mall, Washington DC; Walt Disney World, Orlando; Skiing in the Rocky Mountains; Las Vegas, Yellowstone National Park, The Grand Canyon; Hawaii Volcanoes Insider recommendations - tips on how to beat the crowds, save time and money, and find the best local spots When to go to the USA - high season, low season, climate information and festivals Where to go - a clear introduction to the USA with key places and a handy overview Extensive coverage of regions, places and experiences - regional highlights, sights and places for different types of travellers, with experiences matching different needs Places to eat, drink and stay - hand-picked restaurants, cafes, bars and hotels Practical info at each site - hours of operation, websites, transit tips, charges Colour-coded mapping - with keys and legends listing sites categorised as highlights, eating, accommodation, shopping, drinking and nightlife Background information for connoisseurs - history, culture, art, architecture, film, books, religion, diversity Fully updated post-COVID-19 The guide provides a comprehensive and rich selection of places to see and things to do in the USA, as well as great planning tools. It's the perfect companion, both ahead of your trip and on the ground.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Shenandoah National Park John A. Connors, 1988 Shenandoah National Park, one of America's most frequently visited national parks, lies astride the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. In this book, John Connors, an environmental geologist, identifies, describes and explains many of the important contributions of geology, geomorphology, weather, climate, flora, fauna and human history to the Shenandoah landscape. One chapter is devoted to contemporary environmental problems in the Park. A comprehensive road log to Skyline Drive, which passes the length of Shenandoah, guides the visitor to sites of scientific and historic significance and to the more important hiking trails in the Park.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: The World Almanac Road Trippers' Guide to National Parks: 5,001 Things to Do, Learn, and See for Yourself World Almanac, 2022-04-19 From the #1 New York Times bestselling World Almanac comes a brand-new, full-color book celebrating the National Parks--America's best idea--and providing a valuable resource for first-time visitors and longtime park fans alike. From the rugged, rocky coasts of Acadia to the geysers and hot springs of Yellowstone to the in-your-face beauty of the Grand Canyon, the national parks of North America offer visitors a new sight or bucket-list-worthy experience at every turn. The World Almanac Road Trippers' Guide to National Parks provides detailed history, itineraries, visitor information, gorgeous photography, recommended hiking routes, and other not-to-be-missed sites and activities for anyone seeking to make the most out of the many resources of the national parks systems of the United States and Canada. Divided into travel regions for convenient research and planning whether the trip length is a day or a year, this is a tool eager travelers will use to discover new sites and off-the-beaten-path destinations again and again.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: The Unofficial Guide to Washington, D.C. Eve Zibart, Joe Surkiewicz, 2007-02-27 A guide to hotels and attractions in Washington, D.C.

shenandoah national park visitors guide: Explorer's Guide Virginia Candyce H. Stapen,

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